

Lakeshore Garden Centres

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Sweet Red Sweet William

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Sweet™ Red Sweet William

Dianthus barbatus 'PAS292338'

Plant Height: 18 inches

Flower Height: 24 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 8 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Perennial Sweet William

Group/Class: Sweet Series

Description:

Deliciously clove-scented, velvety frilly red flowers with contrasting white anthers; optimal site has full sun with ample moisture; amend clay soils for best growth; seeds freely but divide for truest color

Ornamental Features

Sweet Red Sweet William is blanketed in stunning fragrant red flat-top frilly flowers with white anthers at the ends of the stems from mid spring to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its tomentose pointy leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Sweet Red Sweet William is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Sweet Red Sweet William is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Sweet Red Sweet William flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Sweet Red Sweet William will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity extending to 24 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 8 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Sweet Red Sweet William is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.